

Serial No.: 10/550,734
Atty. Docket No.: P70816US0

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as set forth herein:

Claims 1-10 (Canceled).

11. (Currently Amended) A wound dressing comprising a web of gel-forming fibers or fibers soluble in wound exudates, ~~attached to a reinforcing layer wherein the~~ having a density of the web is in the a range of 5-60 g/m², and a reinforcing layer attached to said web, said reinforcing layer having a density in a range of 15-40 g/m².

12. (Currently Amended) A The wound dressing according to claim 11 wherein the fibers are selected from the group consisting of polysaccharide fibers, or polyacrylate fibers, preferably ~~alginate~~, chitosan, alginate containing CMC, ~~or~~ CMC fibers and or derivatives ~~or~~ and mixtures thereof.

13. (Currently Amended) A The wound dressing according to claim 11 wherein the web is attached to the reinforcing layer by needling.

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14. (Currently Amended) A The wound dressing according to claim 11 wherein the web is attached to the reinforcing layer by thermal bonding.

15. (Currently Amended) A The wound dressing according to claim 11 wherein the web is attached to the reinforcing layer by an adhesive means.

16. (Currently Amended) A The wound dressing according to claim 11 wherein the reinforcing layer is in the form of a net, a foam, a film, a non-woven or woven material.

17. (Currently Amended) A The wound dressing according to claim 11 wherein the dressing ~~comprises~~ includes one or more active ingredients.

18. (Currently Amended) A The wound dressing according to claim 17 wherein the active ingredient ~~comprises~~ includes an antibacterial agent.

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19. (Currently Amended) A The wound dressing according to claim 17 wherein the active ingredient ~~comprises~~ includes a pain-relieving agent.

20. (Currently Amended) A The wound dressing according to claim 11 wherein the dressing ~~comprises~~ includes Ag-Ca-alginate and/or Ag-Na-CMC.

21. (New) The wound dressing according to claim 11 wherein the density of said web is about 30 g/m² and the density of said reinforcing layer is about 20 g/m² for an overall density of said dressing of about 50 g/m².

22. (New) A wound dressing comprising a web of gel-forming fibers or fibers soluble in wound exudates having a density in a range of 5-60 g/m², and a reinforcing layer attached to said web, said reinforcing layer having a density in a range of 20-30 g/m².

23. (New) A wound dressing comprising a web of gel-forming fibers or fibers soluble in wound exudates having a first density and a reinforcing layer attached to said web and having a second density, a sum of said first density and said second density

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representing an overall density of said wound dressing, said overall wound dressing density being about 50 g/m².

24. (New) The wound dressing according to claim 23 wherein the density of said web is about 30 g/m² and the density of said reinforcing layer is about 20 g/m².